

MISSOURI CAREER GRADES

SEPTEMBER 2022

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Projected to have the most annual total job openings

over 48,000

Food Preparation & Serving Related Occupations

Most grade A and B annual openings

over 44,000

Computer & Mathematical Occupations

Grade A and B Jobs Concentration

98%

Career Grades are a tool to help make comparisons between occupations. Each occupation is assigned a letter grade from A+ to F based on outlook over the next decade. **Grades are based on a combination of projected total job openings, projected percent growth, and average wages.** Occupations with a grade of A or A+ have above average results in at least two of the three variables, while occupations with a grade of B or B+ have above average results in at least one of the three variables.

Missouri is projected to have more than 347,000 annual job openings through 2030. The vast majority (96%) of these openings are in A, B, and C grade occupations. In general, higher graded occupations earn more and have higher growth rates. Grade A occupations earn an average wage that is 59 percent higher than the average wage for all occupations, and are projected to grow more than twice as fast as the average growth rate.

Annual Job Openings and Wages by Career Grades

Grade A

42,674 Job Openings
\$79,571 Average Wage

Grade B

179,011 Job Openings
\$50,316 Average Wage

Grade C








112,023 Job Openings
\$39,583 Average Wage

Top Outlook Occupation Groups




Major Occupation Group	Total Openings	A & B Openings	A & B Concentration
Food Preparation & Serving Related	48,504	44,416	92%
Transportation & Material Moving	33,941	30,215	89%
Business & Financial Operations	16,534	13,936	84%
Healthcare Support	19,920	13,928	70%
Management	13,908	13,509	97%
Office & Administrative Support	42,487	12,931	30%
Building & Grounds Cleaning & Maintenance	12,625	11,571	92%
Construction & Extraction	13,984	10,540	75%
Education, Training, & Library	13,385	9,617	72%
Personal Care & Service	12,169	9,511	78%
Computer & Mathematical	8,636	8,455	98%
Installation, Maintenance, & Repair	12,315	8,189	66%
Sales & Related	35,764	8,106	23%
Healthcare Practitioners & Technical	13,158	7,993	61%
Production	22,214	4,879	22%

Missouri Top Grade Jobs

Now Typically requires short-term on-the-job training, little to no experience, and/or a high school diploma

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
B+	Fast Food & Counter Workers 	14,092	15.4%	\$24,580
B	Home Health & Personal Care Aides 	10,800	13.4%	\$25,840
B+	Waiters & Waitresses	10,041	19.4%	\$23,880
B	Stockers & Order Fillers 	7,930	8.2%	\$30,120
B	Customer Service Representatives 	6,825	1.0%	\$36,580
B+	Laborers & Freight, Stock, & Material Movers, Hand 	6,808	13.0%	\$33,360
B	Janitors & Cleaners, Except Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners 	5,721	6.5%	\$29,550
B	Childcare Workers	3,222	9.3%	\$25,150
B	Maids & Housekeeping Cleaners 	3,025	11.1%	\$24,260
B	Landscaping & Groundskeeping Workers	2,825	8.6%	\$34,250

Next Typically requires non-degree certificate, associate degree, apprenticeship, some experience, or moderate- to long-term training

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A	Cooks, Restaurant	6,497	48.1%	\$27,250
B+	Heavy & Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers 	5,662	9.2%	\$48,230
B	Maintenance & Repair Workers, General 	3,216	7.5%	\$41,940
A	First-Line Supervisors of Food Preparation & Serving Workers	3,190	20.9%	\$36,410
A	Sales Representatives, Wholesale & Manufacturing 	2,423	8.6%	\$71,670
B	First-Line Supervisors of Office & Administrative Support Workers	2,274	-1.2%	\$62,020
B+	Carpenters	2,043	5.3%	\$60,100
B	Medical Secretaries	1,956	10.9%	\$36,610
B+	Sales Representatives of Services	1,883	9.3%	\$64,240
B	Automotive Service Technicians & Mechanics	1,699	1.0%	\$44,010

Later Typically requires a bachelor's degree or higher

Grade	Title	Annual Openings	2020-2030 Growth Rate	Average Wages
A+	General & Operations Managers 	5,593	10.4%	\$101,610
B+	Registered Nurses 	4,405	6.5%	\$65,900
A+	Software Developers & Quality Assurance Analysts & Testers 	3,122	23.0%	\$96,530
A	Accountants & Auditors 	2,848	6.3%	\$71,130
B	Secondary School Teachers, Except Special & Career/Tech. Edu.	2,223	5.8%	\$48,570
A	Project Mngmt. Specialists & Business Op. Specialists, All Other	2,180	5.6%	\$80,400
A+	Management Analysts 	1,645	13.4%	\$88,950
A	Human Resources Specialists 	1,569	11.1%	\$61,150
B	Elementary School Teachers, Except Special Education	1,563	5.7%	\$52,050
A	Market Research Analysts & Marketing Specialists	1,481	22.8%	\$66,020

 Flame icon indicates occupations with high numbers of online job ad postings in 2021.

Sources: Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) and the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) program. Occupational projections developed by the Missouri Economic Research and Information Center (MERIC). Lightcast™. Job opening and growth rate data is based on sum of published employment.

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